

[Translation]

Illegal Cassettes and Video Films

6329. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of illegal cassettes and reels of video films, seized during 1990 and 1991 so far along with the number of persons arrested in this regard;

(b) the action taken against such persons; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the illegal production of video films?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS. (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b): The registration, investigation and detection of criminal cases under the Copyright Act is the responsibility of authorities under the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Detailed information regarding the number of illegal cassettes seized etc. has not been compiled by any agency. However, information regarding all copyright offences in respect of 15 states and Union Territories as available with National Crime Records Bureau for the years 1990 and 1991 is given in the ANNEXURE.

(c) The Minister of Human Resource Development has written a comprehensive letter to all State Chief Ministers and Administrators of Union Territories urging them to improve copyright enforcement in their State/Union Territories and making the following specific suggestions for their consideration:

(i) Creation of Special cells in larger towns to investigate copyright offences.

(ii) Bringing video parlours, video shops under a licensing regime - Ministry of Information & Broadcasting have already approached the State Government in this regard.

(iii) Where the police is over burdened with urgent work, the necessary concurrent powers could be given to Entertainment Tax recovery agencies or other similar agencies.

(iv) A nodal point may be designed with which professional or industry association could liaise.

(v) Collection of Crime Statistics could focus on copyright offences specifically - The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has already addressed the State Police organisations separately.

STATEMENT

States/Union	1990		1991	
	Cases Registered	Persons Arrested	Cases Registered	Persons Arrested
1	2	3	4	5
1. Arunachal Pradesh	...Nil...			Not available
2. Goa	10	Not available		Not available
3. Jammu & Kashmir	3	6		...Nil...
4. Karnataka (Mangalor)		Not available		
5. Kerala	61	Not available		Not available
6. Maharashtra	453	Not available		Not available
7. Mizoram	...Nil...			Not available
8. Nagaland	...Nil...			Not available
9. Punjab	1	Not available		Not available

<i>Stats/Union</i>	1990		1991	
	<i>Cases Registered</i>	<i>Persons Arrested</i>	<i>Cases Registered</i>	<i>Persons Arrested</i>
1	2	3	4	5
10. West Bengal (Calcutta)	31	Not available		Not available
11. Andaman & Nicobar Island	...Nil...			Not available
12. Chandigarh	2	2		...Nil...
13. Daman & Diu	...Nil...			Not available
14. Lakshadweep	...Nil...			Not available
15. Pondicherry	2	Not available		Not available